



ACJ's list of current programs 2015/2016

Note that we are always happy to work with schools on additional programs or customizing existing ones

Diversity and Civil Rights

From Bob Marley to Rap – Civil Rights History through Music Racism and social change in American History

Hebrew or English | 4 hours activity

Opening: What is Racism?

Review of data and statistics by the American Center's Information Specialist (20 minutes)

From Slavery to Freedom

A visual presentation on Afro-American History by an Israeli expert (60 minutes)

Music as a Tool for Social Change

Workshop on American protest songs by Israeli-American musicians (60 minutes)

* An educational group activity on racism can also be included and/or a related film screening (Mississippi Burning / Remember the Titans / Help / Lincoln, etc.)

* If preferred, we can divide this program into two separate days of activity

The Wave

A LIVE video discussion with the California teacher responsible for the 1967 experiment

English | 3 hours

The American Center offers a live video conference with Ron Jones, the teacher who conducted the social experiment on how Nazism and fascism were able to succeed. The program also includes a film screening of the documentary on the experiment, entitled "Lesson Plan: The Story of the Third Wave."

Smartphones as a Tool for Social Change Photography workshop for high school students

Hebrew | 3 sessions

A 3-session workshop for high school students in which they are exposed to American photography methods, learn about significant historical events documented on camera in the U.S. and use their smartphones to "catch" social issues of their own.

One Story - Different Glasses

Mediation tools for the acceptance of others based on the U.S. civil rights experience

Hebrew or English | 3 sessions

A practical 3-session mediation workshop held by professional mediators for high school students. Program includes: Introduction to African-Americans History, a film screening of *Remember the Titans* and two dialogue workshops in keeping with the spirit of the film. The students will practice tools such as active listening to the other, non-judgmental questions and methods for positive dialog.

Case-study of Japanese Americans during WWII

Social Change in the U.S

Hebrew/English | 3 hours

Students will examine the case of Japanese-Americans who were interned in the U.S. during World War II, and their successful struggle for civil rights. The program includes a visual presentation by an American history expert, and watching the powerful film *Yankee Samurai*, which focuses on the topic.

To Kill a Mockingbird

Coping with Racism and Discrimination based on lessons from the book

English/Hebrew | 3 hours

Especially useful for English teachers who teach Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize winning book, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, this workshop helps give students practical tools to deal with racism. The workshop focuses on topics presented in the book, such as prejudice, the class system, inequality, and segregation, as well as methods to address underlying assumptions, inequalities, and injustice. Workshop will be held by professional mediators.

Youth Leadership and Entrepreneurship

The Sky is NOT the Limit

A five-session program for high school students

Length of each session: 3 hours

The purpose of the program is to strengthen youth's sense of personal ability and reinforce their social responsibility. The program is based on American culture and history, linking to examples in Israeli society, and involves a final community project initiated by participants.

Session #1: "Me as a Leader"

Who is a leader? What does it mean to be a leader? What is my role in social change?

Session #2: **"From Martin Luther King to Obama" - Inspirational Leaders** - A visual presentation on American role models by either a U.S diplomat or a local expert - in English or Hebrew. In the second part of the session, the students will participate in a group activity designed to clarify the concepts learned. This session requires advance preparation, and materials on the relevant concepts will be sent to participants prior to the start of the program.

Session #3: **“Reach for the Stars” – The American film *Second Chance*** - a sports social drama based on the true story of the football player, Michael Oher . A white family adopts a homeless boy and encourages him to become a successful football player. The students get to know Michael Oher through the film and discuss his life circumstances and the way he overcame obstacles on his way to sports stardom.

Session #4: **Dialogue Workshop by professional mediators** based on examples from American culture and history.

Session #5: **“My Success Journal” – A Personal story by Yeshialem Fekede**, Ethiopian immigrant who shares her personal story of immigration and heroism.

*** Implementation of the social project the students initiated during the program

U.S Elections

How does American Democracy work?

4 hours activity | English/Hebrew

An active day-long seminar for high school students including a presentation on U.S Elections by an American diplomat, who can discuss a variety of topics related to local and national elections in the U.S., including the relationship between media and politics through an analysis of various presidential debates. The discussion can be followed by a simulated press conference held by the students.

Research Workshops

Researching Beyond Google!

A 60 minute-long English/Hebrew research workshop by IRC's experts. During the session, the students learn how to get the most out of their online searches and web resources.

Research workshops for Model U.N

120 minutes with a break | English/Hebrew

An IRC expert shows students and researchers how best to find the most accurate and relevant information about the countries they are focused on as part of their Model UN projects, minimizing the time it takes them to search and maximizing their use of trusted information sources.

Discussion with a Diplomat

Embassy Speakers Program

An opportunity to engage with a U.S. Diplomat on a wide variety of topics, including Women's Rights, Sports, American Culture, and more. Embassy speakers will travel to your schools or can also address groups at the American Center.